

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O: GTWOHIE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 242012

TOSEC 647 FOR ASST SECY STABLER

FOLLOWING REPEAT NICOSIA 3857 SENT SECSTATE INFO PARIS ATHENS
ANKARA LONDON MOSCOW BEIRUT DATED NOV 2

QUOTE

S E C R E T NICOSIA 3857

DEPARTMENT PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR STABLER

PARIS FOR HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR CY EAIR UK TU

SUBJ: AEROFLOT OFFER TO CYPRUS AIRWAYS

REF: A) STATE 240145; B) LONDON 14238; C) NICOSIA 3811

1. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION NOVEMBER 2 DISCUSSING OUTCOME
OF UNGA DEBATE, FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES ASKED IF I HAD ANYTHING
BY WAY OF RESPONSE TO HIS DEMARCHE ON AEROFLOT AND ESSENTIALITY
OF REOPENING NICOSIA AIRPORT. I SAID HIS REMARKS HAD GENERATED
A LOT OF ACTIVITY AND I HOPED TO BE BACK TO HIM OFFICIALLY EARLY
IN THE WEEK. HAVING ONLY GLANCED AT REF B AND NOT NOTICED RE-
QUEST THAT ELIADES BE PROTECTED AS A SOURCE, I SAID THERE HAD
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BEEN CONTACT WITH HIM IN LONDON. IT APPEARED THAT ALTERNATIVE

TO AEROFLOT PROPOSAL, BY BRITISH MIDLAND AIRWAYS (BMA), WAS VERY MUCH ALIVE. THERE ALSO A HOOKER IN AEROFLOT OFFER IN THAT AIRCRAFT IT PROPOSED TO USE, THE YAK-40, LACKED AIRWORTHINESS CERTIFICATE FOR MOST COUNTRIES ON CYPRUS AIRWAYS ROUTE.

2. I SAW CHRISTOPHIDES OUTSIDE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER. HE HAD TELEPHONED ELIADES IN THE INTERIM AND ELIADES HAD INFORMED HIM OF DISCUSSIONS WITH FCO ON AEROFLOT AND BMA OFFERS, BUT HE KNEW NOTHING OF AIRWORTHINESS CERTIFICATE PROBLEM. CHRISTOPHIDES REITERATED GOC OPPOSITION TO AEROFLOT OFFER AND SAID THE KEY TO THIS PROBLEM WAS NOT RELATIVE MERITS OF AEROFLOT VERSUS BMA BUT REOPENING NICOSIA AIRPORT.

3. REGRET INADVERTENT FAICARE PROTECT ELIADES AND HOPE THIS WILL NOT PROVE OVERLY TROUBLESOME IN LONDON.
CRAWFORD
UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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